

times in the total length, including caudal. The ventrals extend to about the vertical from the origin of the second dorsal, and do not reach nearly to the vent. The longest ray of the first dorsal is a little more than one-half as long as the head. None of the rays of the second dorsal or of the anal are as long as the first ray of the first dorsal. The longest ray of the second dorsal does not much exceed one-half the height of the body. The longest ray of the anal is about one-half the length of the ventral. The origin of the anal is about under the tenth ray of the second dorsal. The ventrals are situated about under the beginning of the posterior third of the head; their length equals one-fourth of the length of the second dorsal base. The origin of the pectoral is somewhat in advance of that of the first dorsal. The fin is imperfect, but its length probably slightly exceeds that of the ventral. The caudal is rounded.

D. 5, 55; A. 44; V. 10.

Owing to the condition of the specimen it is very difficult to count the small scales, but there are about 7 or 8 rows between the origin of the first dorsal and the lateral line and about 14 or 15 rows between the origin of the anal and the lateral line. The number in the lateral line is at least 115 to the origin of the caudal.

The color of the type at present is a very light brown. The margins of the dorsal and anal, in their posterior portions, are blackish.

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## ON THE OCCURRENCE OF THE STRIPED BASS IN THE LOWER MISSISSIPPI VALLEY.

By **TARLETON H. BEAN,**

*Curator, Department of Fishes, United States National Museum.*

On the 7th of April, 1883, Mr. Thomas S. Doron, of Montgomery, Ala., sent to the Museum a large striped bass which was caught in the Alabama River near Montgomery. The fish is a gravid female, measuring nearly 3 feet in total length. The depth was so considerable that the identity of the species with the striped bass of the east coast was at first questioned and an effort was made to secure smaller individuals from the same region for the purpose of comparison with east-coast specimens. Until recently, however, no young examples were obtained. The Museum has a specimen of the common striped bass, number 21312, from Pensacola, Fla., whence it was sent by Mr. Silas Stearns; this example which is 16 inches long, has been compared with one of equal size from Wood's Holl, Mass., and shows no differences from the common form. While the occurrence of the striped bass in the Gulf of Mexico has been established for several years we have not until now been certain that it exists, also, in the Mississippi Basin. The specimen recently obtained from Mr. J. Dock Harrell, of Osyka, Miss., enables us to decide

this most interesting point in the distribution of the species. Mr. Harrell obtained his specimen from the Tangipahoa River, near Osyka. He states, in a letter to Professor Baird, dated July 5, 1884, that some of the fish caught there weighed from 2 to 3 pounds each. In a subsequent letter, July 16, 1884, he writes that the fish of the species sent are becoming numerous in those waters; that since he forwarded the fish others of the same size have been caught and great schools of still smaller ones have been seen; also, that specimens weighing from 4 to 6 pounds each have been taken.

There is no doubt whatever in my mind that the striped bass, *Roccus striatus*, occurs in the Lower Mississippi Valley; but it may be well to record the following notes and measurements concerning two of the individuals now in the Museum as a basis for future comparisons.

The small specimen, number 35144, has the lingual teeth in 4 patches, the two patches at the base of the tongue being separated by only a very narrow interspace. In this example the last 4 gill-rakers below the angle are rudimentary.

In the large example from Montgomery the lingual teeth are in 4 patches, those at the base being very slightly separated. The length of each patch at the base of the tongue is 13 millimeters, which is a little less than one-third of the length of each palatine patch. The number of gill-rakers above the angle is 10, below the angle 12. The longest gill-raker is 26 millimeters in length, and its greatest width is 8 millimeters. The gill-rakers are blunt at the end, compressed, finely-toothed on their inner surface. The depth of the exposed portion of the largest scale is 19 millimeters. There are about 7 black stripes on the body, one of which incloses the lateral line. Between some of the stripes on the back there are some much narrower accessory ones.

Complete measurements of the specimens are appended:

*Measurements.*

Current number of specimen .....	35144	32629 ♀
Locality .....	Tangipahoa River, Mississippi.	Alabama River, Alabama.
	Millimeters.	Millimeters.
Length to origin of middle caudal rays .....	206	765
Body:		
Greatest height.....	55	270
Greatest width.....	29	130
Height at ventrals .....	55	240
Least height of tail .....	22	73
Length of caudal peduncle.....	36	124
Head:		
Greatest length .....	66	226
Length of longest gill-raker.....	9	26
Greatest width.....	28	134
Width of interorbital area.....	13	67
Length of snout.....	15	67
Length of operculum .....	18	61
Length of maxillary .....	20	85
Length of upper jaw .....	25	99
Length of mandible .....	33	125
Distance from snout to orbit.....	17	68
Diameter of orbit .....	15	30

## Measurements—Continued.

	Millimeters.	Millimeters.
Dorsal (spinous) :		
Distance from snout .....	82	300
Length of base .....	45	165
Length of first spine .....	6	9
Length of second spine .....	11	28
Length of longest spine (4th) .....	30	82+
Length of last spine .....	8	15
Distance between dorsals .....	2	17
Dorsal (soft) :		
Length of base .....	37	140
Length of antecedent spine .....	18	30
Length of longest ray .....	29	97
Length of last ray .....	13	46
Anal :		
Distance from snout .....	141	575
Length of base .....	29	91
Length of first spine .....	6	11
Length of second spine .....	12	21
Length of third spine .....	17	30
Length of first ray .....	28	87
Length of longest ray .....	28	87
Length of last ray .....	13	42
Caudal :		
Length of middle rays from origin .....	32	106
Length of external rays .....	44	132
Pectoral :		
Distance from snout .....	61	215
Length .....	33	119
Ventral :		
Distance from snout .....	73	285
Length .....	34	127
Dorsal .....	IX-I, 12	IX-I, 12
Anal .....	III, 11	III, 11
Pectoral .....		18
Ventral .....		I, 5
Number of scales in lateral line .....	68	69
Number of transverse rows above lateral line .....	10	10
Number of transverse rows from anal origin to lateral line .....	14	14
Number of gill-rakers .....	14	12

## NOTES ON SOME GREENLAND FISHES.

By H. G. DRESEL,

Ensign, United States Navy.

During the months of July and August, 1883, while attached to the United States steamship *Yantic* which accompanied the Greely relief steamer *Proteus* to Greenland, I was enabled to obtain several species of the fishes inhabiting the waters of that region. I have increased the list by the examination of a collection of fishes obtained in Davis Straits by Mr. N. P. Scudder in the summer of 1879.

Sixteen species are mentioned in this paper, and comparatively full notes have been made upon them. Those of especial interest are *Icelus hamatus*, and *Salvelinus stagnalis*, full descriptions of which are given. They all form part of the National Museum collection, and the numbers accompanying them are those of the Museum Register.

**Hippoglossus vulgaris** Fleming.

*Pleuronectes hippoglossus*, LINNÉ, Syst. Nat., i, 1766, p. 456.

*Hippoglossus vulgaris* FLEMING, Brit. Anim., 1828, p. 197; GÜNTHER, Cat. Fish. Brit. Mus., iv, 1862, p. 403.

A skin, No. 28626, was obtained by Mr. N. P. Scudder in Davis Straits July 12, 1879. The fish was caught in a depth of 50 or 60 fathoms. The